

Remarks

Claims 1-117 are pending in the application and are subject to a restriction requirement. The claims have been grouped as follows: Group I, claims 1-58, Group II, claims 59-69, Group III, claims 70-73, Group IV, claim 74, Group V, claims 75-78, Group VI, claims 79-86, Group VII, claims 87-91, Group VIII, claims 92-100, Group IX, claims 101-107, 108, and 115-117, and Group X, claims 109-114. Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group II, i.e., claims 59-69, with traverse.

The March 21, 2006 Office action further takes the position that the application contains claims to patentably distinct species and requires the election of a series of single species.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 3 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect one probe as the species. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 4 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect antibody as the species of probe. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 5 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect antibody as the species member of a library. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 6 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect fluorophore as the species of fluorescent tag. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

In light of the group of claims elected, Applicants are under the impression that no election need be made under Paragraph 7 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action.

In light of the group of claims elected, Applicants are under the impression that no election need be made under Paragraph 8 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 9 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect the species, "not attached to a bead." Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 10 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect a probe as the species. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

In light of the group of claims elected, Applicants are under the impression that no election need be made under Paragraph 11 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action.

In light of the group of claims elected, Applicants are under the impression that no election need be made under Paragraph 12 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action.

Pursuant to the direction stated at Paragraph 13 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action, Applicants elect pathogen as the species. Claims 59-69 read on the elected species.

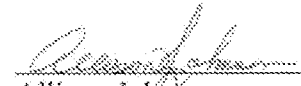
In light of the group of claims elected, Applicants are under the impression that no election need be made under Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the March 21<sup>st</sup> Office action.

The claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should a teleconference interview facilitate prosecution of this application.

Please charge any additional fees owing or credit any over payments made to Deposit Account No. 501,171.

Respectfully submitted,

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